

Farmer & Rancher Climate Leaders

State Water Efficiency & Enhancement Program Participants

SWEEP, administered by the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA), provides grants to farmers and ranchers for irrigation management improvements that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save water.

More info is available on CDFA's website: www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/sweep/

BOWLES FARMING COMPANY

Los Banos, Merced County
Award Amount: \$200,000



"As a farmer,
it's easy to be consumed
with just keeping the business running.
Incentives like the state's Climate Smart
Agriculture grants provide an opportunity
for us to shift our mindsets toward
building even stronger businesses
in the long term."
- Danny Royer,
Vice President of Technology

When he was ten years old, Danny Royer decided he wanted to study at Cal Poly and go into agriculture. After graduating, he worked on several farming operations in the Central Valley before joining Bowles Farming Company. Originally a beef operation incorporated in the 1800s, Bowles now manages 12,000 acres in the San Joaquin Valley, producing a diversity of row crops including tomatoes, cotton, watermelons, and pistachios. Danny and his team will use the SWEEP funding to significantly reduce their operation's greenhouse gas emissions by converting a diesel-powered irrigation pump to electricity. They will also install soil moisture sensors so they can match irrigation needs to each specific soil type and crop. Their large operation spans a mosaic of different soil types, so irrigating uniformly meant that some areas are overwatered while other areas receive too little. Danny expects that this project will improve their irrigation efficiency while producing higher yields.

The California Climate & Agriculture Network (CalCAN) is a statewide coalition that advances state and federal policy to realize the powerful climate solutions offered by sustainable and organic agriculture.



CalCAN
CALIFORNIA CLIMATE &
AGRICULTURE NETWORK